

## Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story



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### Phase Out Thiram Use

#### The Member

Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, Warren County (BFNT Warren) plant began manufacturing truck and bus tires in 1990. The plant employs approximately 1025 team members involved in producing thousands of truck and bus tires each day. BFNT company-wide has been dedicated to environmental excellence and continuous improvement as demonstrated by all of our North American tire plants achieving ISO 14001 certification by the year 2000. BFNT Warren is also a Charter Member of the EPA National Environmental Performance Track. We continue to look for opportunities to eliminate and reduce waste, save natural resources, and prevent pollution.



#### The Story

Thiram was used as a general-purpose cure rate accelerator for natural and synthetic rubber vulcanization at BFTN Warren. In other words, Thiram reduces the cure time for our tires. Other uses for this chemical include fungicide, seed disinfectant,

bactericide, animal repellent, insecticide and treatment of chronic alcoholism. Exposure to Thiram will cause severe stomach cramps if alcohol is consumed. Thiram (CAS #137-26-8) is a listed hazardous waste (U244) because of its toxic properties.

BFNT Warren uses other accelerators because they have beneficial qualities that Thiram does not. Over time, we have substituted these other accelerators over Thiram so that in 2003, we could start elimination the use of Thiram completely.

#### The Success

BFNT Warren is committed to continuous improvement in our products and environmental performance. By substituting the Thiram accelerator with alternate chemicals, we have improved the quality of our tires while eliminating the only chemical that is a listed hazardous waste used at BFNT Warren.

#### The Pollution Prevented

In 2003, BFNT Warren used 14,125 pounds of Thiram for its accelerator properties in our tires. In 2005, BFNT Warren used 0 pounds of Thiram, a 100% reduction. By eliminating Thiram usage, we eliminate the possible environmental contamination and any possible adverse health effects to our employees from Thiram.

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TENNESSEE POLLUTION PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP  
1-800-734-3619 [www.state.tn.us/environment/ea/tp3](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/ea/tp3)